WASHINGTON – Today, House Republicans rejected an amendment sponsored by Congressman Tim Ryan (OH-17), a member of the House Budget Committee, to protect working Americans from tax increases. The amendment rejects any tax increases for Americans with incomes below \$200,000 (\$250,000 for married couples).

"While House Republicans are focused in eliminating critical projects for the benefits of millionaires, I am committed to working with my colleagues to make this budget work for the middle class," said Congressman Tim Ryan. "Our country has already seen the aftermath of feeding corporate greed. If my colleagues on the right want working families to make sacrifices in order to balance our budget, the Wall Street CEOs and the wealthiest among us can make sacrifices too."

According to the most recent U.S. Census data, American families lost ground during the 2000s as median incomes slipped 4.9 percent in real terms between 2000 and 2009. In contrast, between 1979 and 2007, according to CBO, average after-tax incomes for the top 1 percent almost tripled even after adjusting for inflation — or an increase in income of \$973,100 per household. Over the same period, incomes for households in the middle rose just 25 percent and the poorest households saw their incomes rise just 16 percent.

Watch the YouTube video of the vote here.